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Title: Need to take effective steps to check the spread of diabetes in the country.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): The incidence of diabetes in India has reached epidemic proportions. The figures collected in 2003 reveals that 35.5 million of the world's 230 million diabetics are in India, with every fifth Indian a diabetic. Diabetes is the fourth leading cause of death, globally.

The global diabetes drugs treatment market was valued at billions of dollars in 2005. Besides lifestyle, absence of proper awareness among masses is also a cause of incidence of diabetes. Globally as many as 50 per cent of diabetics remain largely unaware of their condition indicates that the worst affected are possibly in developing countries with genetic predisposition and lack of preventive public health care programmes, and conversely, obesity among children make them especially vulnerable.

I request the Government of India to take effective steps in checking spread of the disease in the country.

*** Treated as laid on the Table.**